

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the Restriction Requirement in the non-final Official Action mailed **August 18, 2004** (Paper No. 08172004). Prompt examination of the elected claims is now respectfully requested.

In the Restriction Requirement of August 18, 2004, the Office alleged that the present application claims three independent and distinct inventions represented by:

- (1) Claims 1-21 and 31-39;
- (2) Claims 22-24; and
- (3) Claims 25-30.

In response, Applicant hereby elects the first group of claims (claims 1-21 and 31-39) for immediate examination. Consequently, claims 22-30 are labeled herein as "withdrawn." This election is without traverse.

In addition, Applicant has herein added new claims 40-43. Each of these claims is a dependent claim depending from one of the elected claims. New claims 40-43 are thus directed to the elected subject matter and should be included in the present examination of the application. Consequently, claims 1-21 and 31-43 are now pending for consideration in this application.



If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions which could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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DATE: 17 September 2004

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

DATE OF DEPOSIT: September 17, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on the date indicated above in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Rebecca R. Schow